

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A conformable, absorbent structure having profiled stabilization and, consequently, decreased stiffness, includes an absorbent material at least partially stabilized with a binder material and located in a central longitudinal region and in two distal longitudinal regions located along opposite sides of the central longitudinal region. The absorbent material is more stabilized in the central longitudinal region than in either of the two distal longitudinal regions. The absorbent structure can be included in a number of absorbent articles, including diapers, training pants, swimwear, absorbent underpants, adult incontinence products, and feminine hygiene products, for example. The invention also includes a method of forming an absorbent structure having profiled stabilization.